

1972

YEAR
STAMP

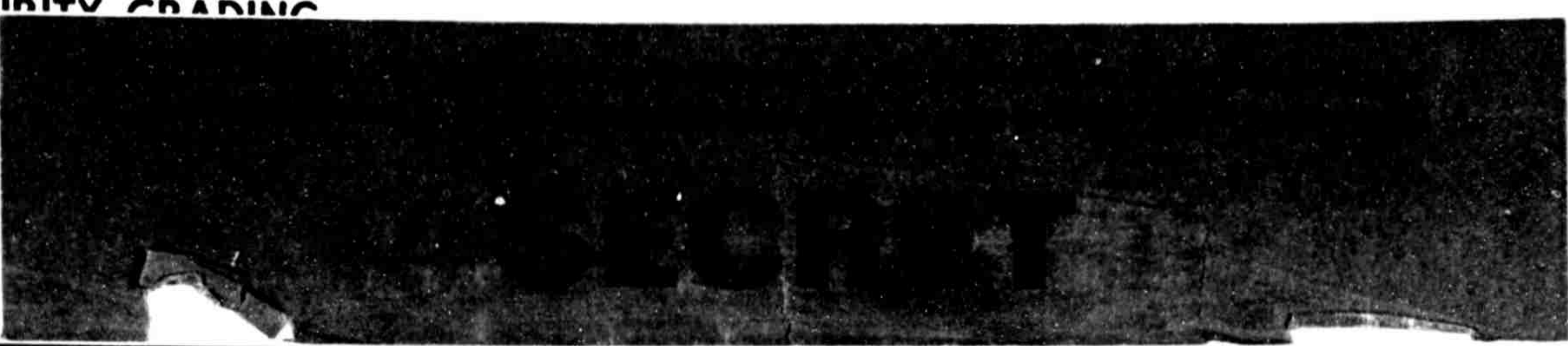
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PART

FILE No. NB R 10/2

SECURITY GRADING

N.B.
UPGR



Contents checked
for transfer to
D.R.O.
(Sgd.) *[Signature]*
Date 4/3/75

H.M. DIPLOMATIC SERVICE

DEPT.
or POST

AFRICAN

FILE No. NB R 10/2 (Part)

TITLE: EXPORTS OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION
FROM UNITED KINGDOM TO IRAQ

REFER TO			REFER TO			REFER TO		
NAME (and dept. when necessary)	TO SEE:	DATE	NAME (and dept. when necessary)	TO SEE:	DATE	NAME (and dept. when necessary)	TO SEE:	DATE
B.S.	(1)	✓	C.B.	14/9	✓			
DEF DEPT	(1)	✓	Registry	20	9.10			
GB	(2)	✓	N. Thompson (Def.)	✓				
DEF DEPT	(3)	✓	Registry	21, 20	11.10			
GB	(4)	✓						
B.S.	(5)	14/6						
(1) Mr Martin	(6)	5/6						
(2) Mr Smith MED.								
Mr. Allen		8/6						
Mr. Smith		8/6						
Mr. Allen		8/6						
Mr. Thompson		8/6						
Def Dept		8/6						
Mr. Smith, MED.		14/6						
GB	(11)	27/6						
GB	14-15/6	12.9						
Reg.		12.9						
B.S.	(18+19)	✓						
Mr. Allen	(14-19)	17/9						
Mr. R.	(17+19)							

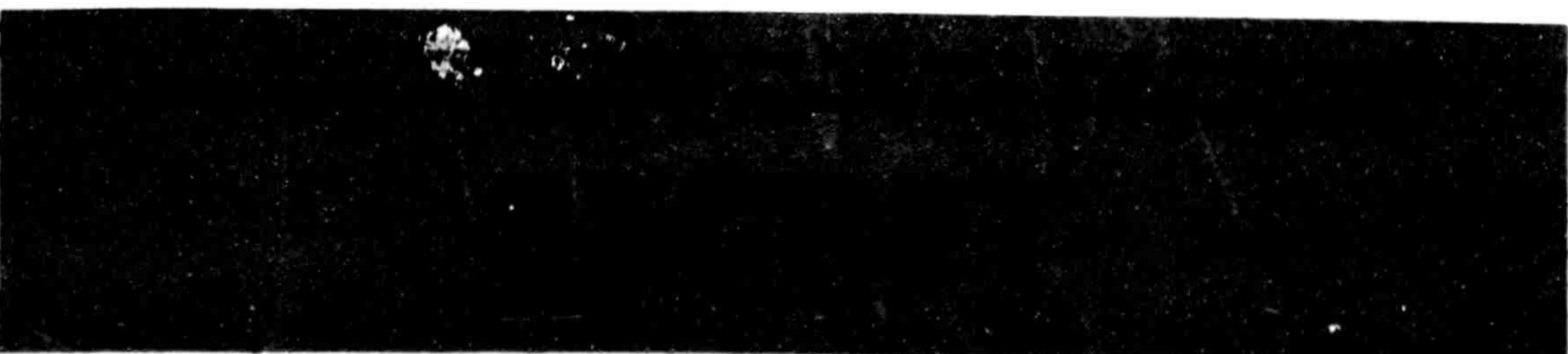
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UNTIL
2003

Registry Address

Room No 116
Downing Street (W)

SEC
N.B.
UPGR



YEAR STAMP

78 2

SI/13/30/3

From: Miss K E Wood

①



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Main Building, Whitehall, LONDON S.W.1

Telephone: ~~xxxxxx~~ 7022, ext. 6730

01-930

Our reference: DS13b/178/38

Your reference:

S Macpherson Esq
Defence Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Downing Street
SW1

R
Please Enter on 1 pass to Mrs
Beckett, NEX.

RECEIVED IN 30
REGISTRY No. 35
- 5 APR 1972
NBR 10/12

March 1972

4/4

Dear Stuart

ADEN GUN SPARES - IRAQ

The Iraq Embassy has asked for a quotation for supply of the attached list of spares for the Aden guns they already hold. I should be grateful for your ruling on whether they may be supplied.

30 mm

Yours sincerely

Kathy Wood

2

Miss Beckett - NEX.

May I please have your comments?

Mr. Macpherson

No objection to the spares, but the offer is to be sent to the Air Attache, Iraq Embassy London; neither the office nor the Embassy exist. I suggest that, before submitting an offer MOD ask the Afghans how they should write. 8/4 MED.

Please submit in duplicate your prices for item which are in the following list as undermentioned conditions:-

1. The prices must be (F.O.B.)
2. The items must be new manufacture and not (A.R.B.release).
3. The closing date of this tender is.
4. All offers should be addressed as above in sealed cover and posted
5. the Air Attache, Embassy of the Republic of Iraq 22, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7. England.
6. It is also requested to confirm that your prices will be firm during delivery period quoted.
7. All covers containing the tender should be marked thus:

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

OFFER AGAINST REQUISITION NO.MU/169 /1971

CLOSING DATE:

8. Please quote for sec.8 ref.as well as Pt.No.
9. If the goods are not despatched within the delivery period in the contract, will cause a Fine of 1% of the price for month delay.
10. In the end please write your Co.Name on the envelop.
11. The Item must be A.I.D. Release.

Air Officer Commanding

IRAQI AIR FORCE

Item No.	Ref.and/or Part No.	Description	Denom of Qty	Qty	Unit price £. s. d.
1.	7R/78.	Spring pin firing.	Ea	110	
2.	= 153.	Unit socking.	=	58	
3.	= 256.	Barel clening brush.	=	170	
4.	= 4.	Plunger lever GAM.	=	68	
5.	= 5.	Pin sering gam lever.	=	75	
6.	= 6.	Spring gam lever.	=	50	
7.	= 14.	Cradle nut.	=	20	
8.	= 17.	Spring guide gam lever.	=	14	
9.	= 72.	Cap housing firing pin.	=	42	
10.	= 85.	Cap deflector L.H.	=	150	
11.	= 86.	= = R.H.	=	140	
12.	= 87.	Cotter slide front.	=	150	
13.	= 412.	Mal ejection bracket L.H.	=	215	
14.	= 413.	= = = R.H.	=	325	
15.	= 121.	Unit electric firing assy.	=	20	
16.	= 63.	Pad pressure gas plug.	=	40	
17.	= 64.	Ring screwed gas plug.	=	17	
18.	= 65.	= sealing gas.	=	20	
19.	= 74.	Pin firing.	=	30	
20.	= 73.	Insulator pin firing.	=	30	
21.	= 522.	Nylon insert firin; pin.	=	50	
22.	= 242.	Push insulating firing pin.	=	55	
23.	= 287.	Cylinder breech MK.2. assy.	=	5	
24.	= 29.	Ring gland gass.	=	34	
25.	= 42.	Housing pin firing.	=	5	
26.	= 11.	Cradle.	=	10	
27.	= 14.	Nut cradle.	=	10	

cont'd/..

Part and/or Part No.		Description	Denom of Qty	Qty
28.	7R/41.	Ejector.	Ea	14
29.	= 45.	Nut pin ejector.	=	18
30.	= 56.	Ring piston.	=	20
31.	= 59.	Spring inner ejector.	=	10
32.	= 50.	Pins axis ejector pawl.	=	4
33.	= 60.	Spring outer ejector.	=	20
34.	= 281.	Nut shaft.	=	5

Miss K E Wood
DS13
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1

WER 10/1
11 April 1972

ADEN GUN SPARES - IRAQ

1. We should have no objection to the supply to Iraq of the Aden Gun Spares listed with your letter of 30 March. ①
2. It is noted however that the application invites offers to be sent to the Air Attaché, Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in London. As neither the officer nor the Embassy exist, it is suggested that you may wish to make enquiries via the Afghans about the method of writing, before submitting an offer.

S MACPHERSON
Defence Department

WS 14/4
pa
pa



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Main Building, Whitehall, LONDON S.W.1

Telephone: ~~Whitehall~~ 7022, ext. 6279

01-930

3

Our reference: DS13/178

Your reference:

S Macpherson Esq
Defence Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

R
Please Enter and pass to
Mr. Smith, M.E. Dept.

14 April 1972

RECEIVED IN
REGISTRY No. 38
18 APR 1972

NBR 10/2

Dear Stuart,

IRAQ - OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS

1. Please refer to the attached correspondence which shows our unsuccessful attempts since June 1970 to obtain agreement from the Iraqis to offset certain credits against outstanding invoices.
2. Our Accounts Branch are now seeking authority to make the necessary adjustments without the prior concurrence of the Iraqis and I should be grateful for your confirmation that there would be no political objections to this course of action.

Yours sincerely,
Pallie

(Mrs) P CHALLIS

Mr. Smith

I should be grateful for your comments

No objection

17/4

Sales(S) *5b* ✓

Copy to: DS13d

OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS - IRAQ


In our letter of even reference dated 22 Jun 70, copied to you, we asked the customer if they would agree to our proposal for offsetting certain credits against outstanding invoices.

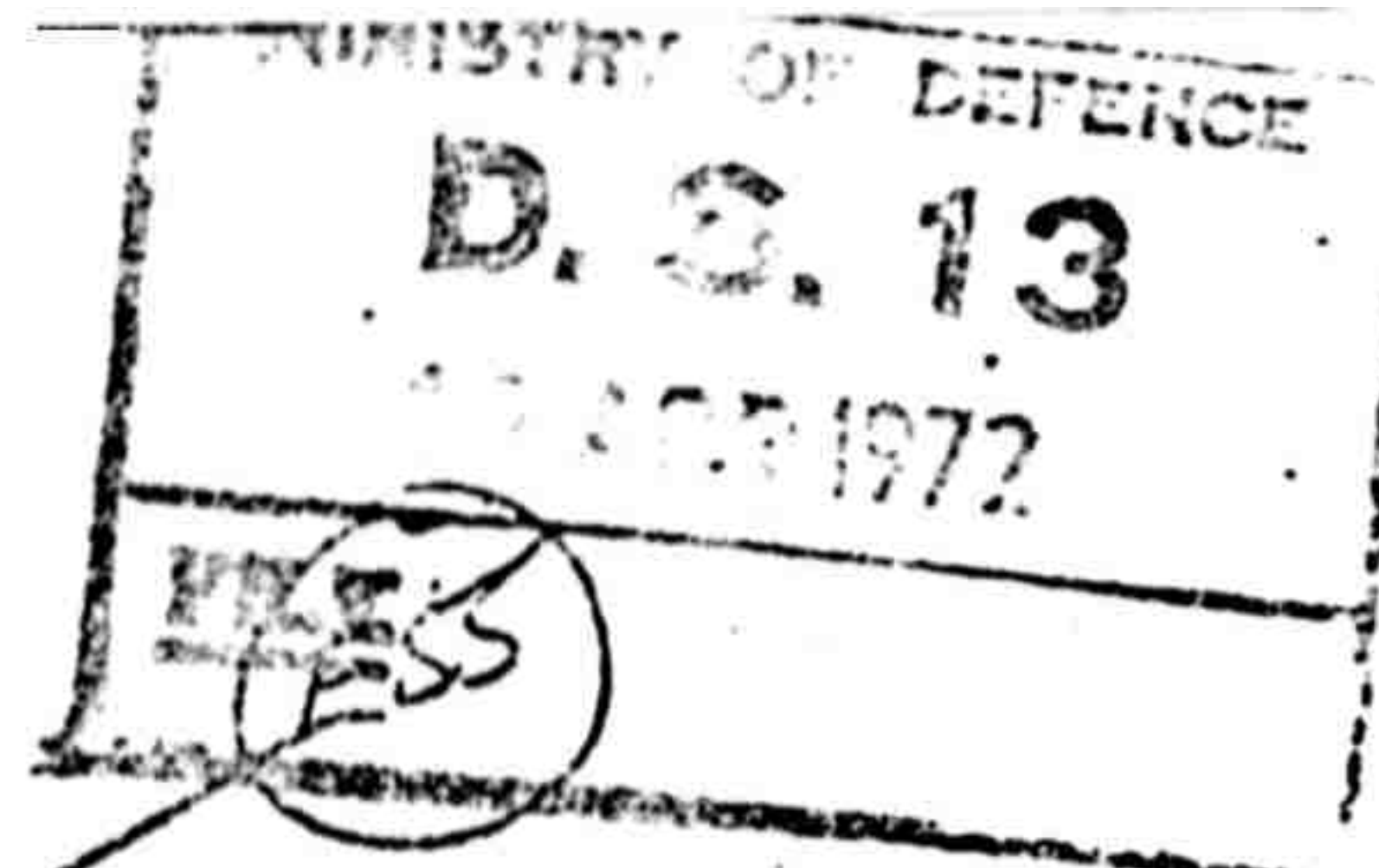
Despite several reminders however, the last dated 3 Nov 71, no reply has been received and now of course, due to the break in diplomatic relations, we are unable to communicate with them further.

In order to reduce the outstanding claims against this customer, therefore, we should be obliged if you would now consider authorising our making the adjustments, detailed in the above mentioned letter, without the prior concurrence of the customer.

May we please have your comments.

21 Feb 72


Acs 9A3
for DGDA
Ministry of Defence
Derby House
LIVERPOOL L2 3RA
051-236 9631 Ext 50



Telephone: 01 - 928 - 7999 Ext.3924

Our Ref: Country/21/1
(Sales (S)5b)

14 May, 1971

Dear Sir,

Outstanding Invoices for Purchases of
Defence Equipment


— E-54.

On the 22nd June, 1970, the Director-General of Defence Accounts, Ministry of Defence, Liverpool, under the letter reference LAM/25/05, wrote to you at our request offering to offset amounts credited to the Iraqi Ministry of Defence against the total amount that the Iraqi Ministry of Defence is in debt to this Department. In the final analysis this arrangement would leave a balance outstanding, and payable by the Iraqi Ministry of Defence in the sum of £103,851. 75

We regret to note that to date no acceptance of this arrangement has been received by this Department, neither has any alternative offer of settlement come to hand. The writer is therefore to express the concern of the Department at this apparent lack of co-operation relative to our efforts to reach a settlement, and to ask you to undertake to look into the matter at an early date please. We are in receipt of a copy of a letter addressed to the Military Attache, British Embassy, Baghdad, by Brigadier Abdul Wahid Abdul Munin, Director of Contracts and Purchases and dated 27th April, 1971 (copied to you), in which we are asked to "mediate with the competent authorities", and "co-operate with the Iraqi Military Attache in London to put an end to the matter". In response we offer our full co-operation to your goodself, and offer to mediate with the unspecified competent authority if you will kindly advise us who we should contact in order to meet this request for mediation.

We are in harmony with Brigadier Munin when we conclude with his expressed sentiment, that in awaiting the result of the efforts to be exerted by you, we avail ourselves of this opportunity to express our confidence and thanks.

Yours faithfully,


Director of Sales (Supply)

The Military Attache,
Embassy of the Republic of Iraq,
22, Queens Gate,
LONDON, W7 7

Copy to: ✓ Accounts 9A3, Liverpool)

" " ✓ D3 13 d

} with copy of Brig. Munin's letter

Mrs P Challis
DS13
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1

NBR 10/1
~~NEQ 10/2~~

21 April 1972

IRAQ - OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS

3

Thank you for your letter of 14 April in which you inform us that your Accounts Branch are in process of seeking authority to offset certain credits against outstanding invoices without the prior concurrence of the Iraqis. I confirm that we should have no political objection to this course of action.

S MACPHERSON
Defence Department

NSH 24/4
Pa

FROM: Miss K E Wood

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Main Building, Whitehall, LONDON S.W.1

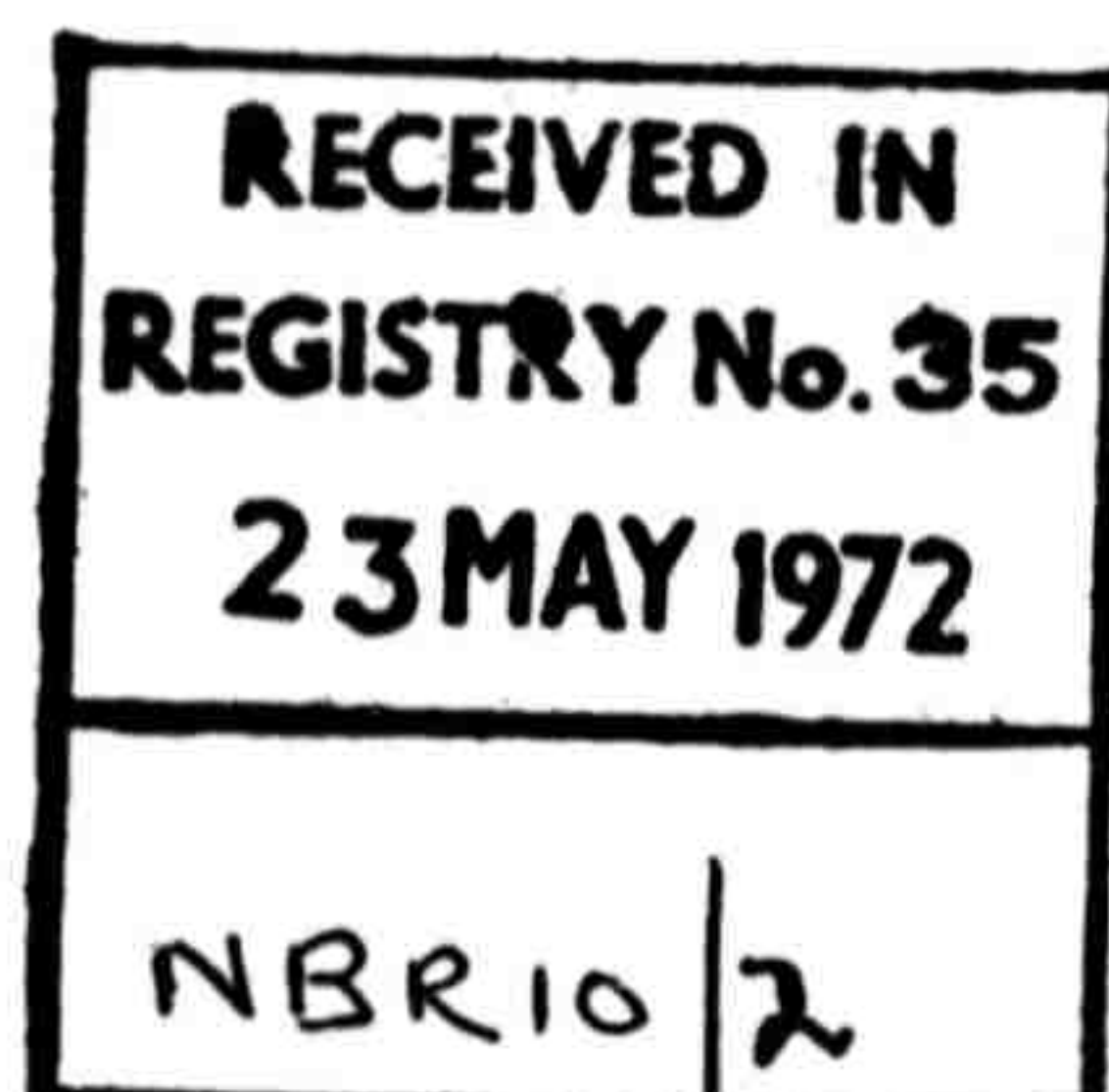
Telephone: 01-930 7022, ext. 6730



Our Reference: DS135/178/38
Your Reference: NBR/10/1

R Please enter under para to Mr. Smith, MED.

S Macpherson Esq
Defence Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Downing Street
SW1



19 May 1972

Dear Stuart

ADEN GUN SPARES - IRAQ

1. Your letter of 11 April gave agreement to supply to Iraq of Aden gun spares, but pointed out that the Iraqi Embassy in London no longer exists and that the request should have been routed via the Afghanistan Embassy. Prior to receiving your letter Mrs Challis had telephoned Mr Smith on the Iraq desk to say that the request had actually come from the Iraq Embassy in Brussels.

2. I attach copies of the letter sent by AD Sales Supply 1 to the Iraqi Air Attache in Brussels, and of his reply from which you will see that the Iraqis are ignoring use of the Afghans as a "go-between". I should be grateful for your further advice on the reply to be given to the Iraqi Air Attache.

Yours sincerely
Kathy Wood

Mr. Smith, MED

I should be grateful for your comments.

M. T. H. J.
(PC Dept.)

I should be grateful for your advice on this. Politically I see no reason to be accommodating to the Iraqis. They broke off relations with us, and if this causes them inconvenience too bad. But could we oppose Major Jamil's comments in his letter of 2 May below - i.e. that is there anything to stop him operating from the Iraq Embassy in Brussels in this way?

8/1 MED 24/5

E7
AIR ATTACHÉ
TO THE
EMBASSY OF THE
REPUBLIC OF IRAQ.

14 AV. ED. TYTGAT
1200 BRUSSELS

TÉL. 70.96.28



مِنْفَارَةُ الْجُمْهُورِيَّةِ الْعِرَاقِيَّةِ

والقوات الجوية

مركز

Our ref 19/1/MU/169/2030
Ministry of Defence
St Christopher house
South Works Street
London SE1

Brussels, 2nd May 1972

Dear Sirs,

Thank you for your letter dated 19th April 1972.

We would like to point out that we are still forwarding our requisitions to all the British Companies and the Ministry of Defence through this office as before.

Our system of work has not been affecting as a result of our leaving to Brussels; so may we request again to submit your quotation for the items listed there in the attached requisition.

Thanking you in anticipation for your co-operation.

Yours faithfully

Major H.N. Jamil

AIR ATTACHE

E6.

Telephone: 01-928-7999 Ext 4375

Your ref: 1971/MU/169/1685
Our ref: D/Sales/519/53/83

Air Attache
Iraq Embassy
Avenue Ed Tytgat 14
1200 Brussels

19th April 1972

Dear Sir

With reference to your letter dated 15 March 1972, your list of requirements is returned herewith.

I must ask you to resubmit this request through the Embassy of Afghanistan in London, which is the normal diplomatic channel.

Yours faithfully

R. G. FRATT

for AD Sales Supply 1

TEL. BRIDGWATER (0278) 8211/2
TELEX. 46374

CABLES "FIREARMS" BRIDGWATER

6

Firearms Co. Ltd.

ASSOCIATED WITH SIDEM INTERNATIONAL

Manufacturers and Distributors of
Hand Guns, Hunting, Sporting &
Military Firearms

DIRECTORS

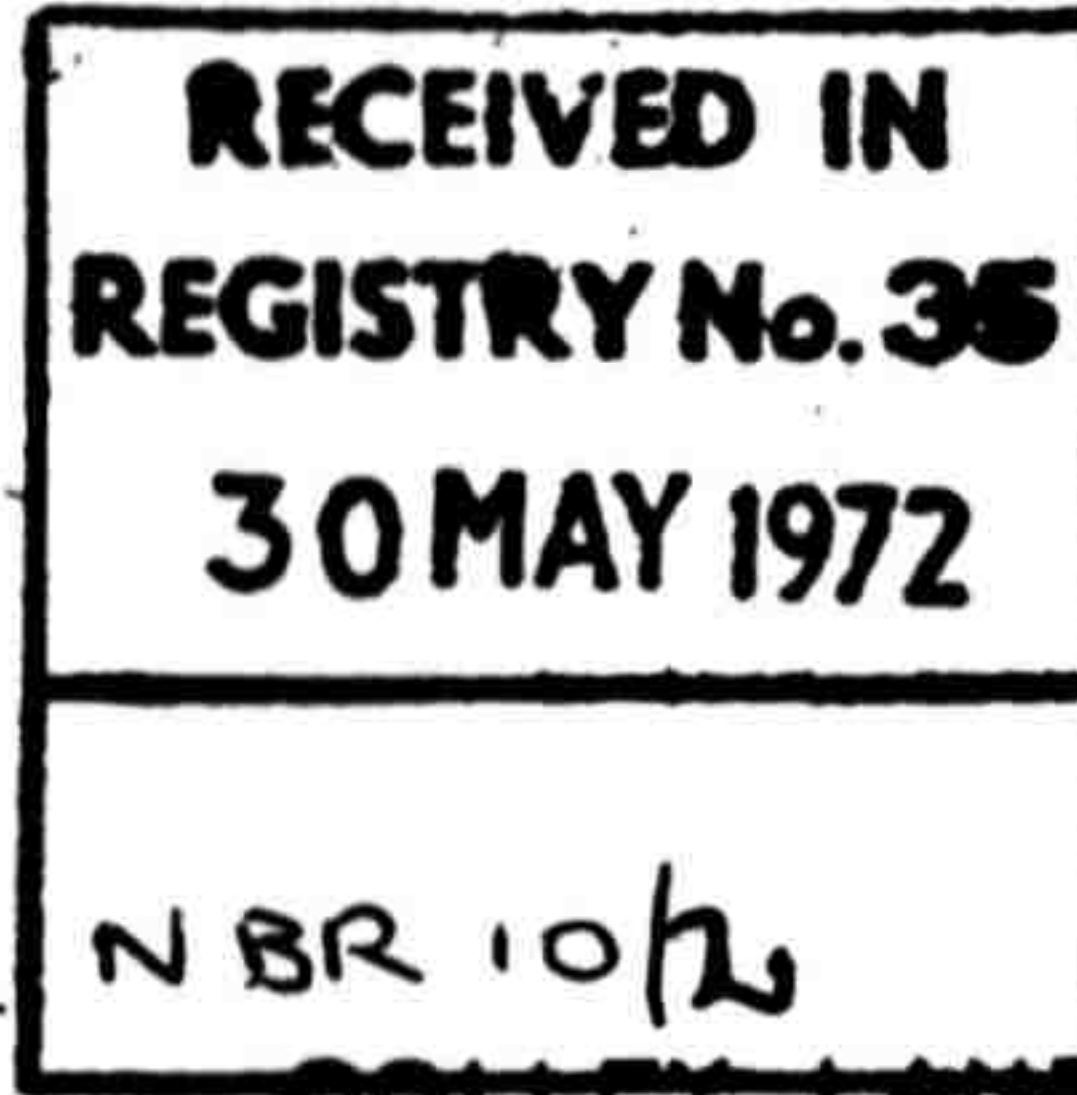
J. B. MICHAULT (U.S.A.)
THE HON. W. G. M. SPENS.
LLOYD JENKINS
LT. COL. E. R. WARREN, A.M.I.E.I.

SECRETARY

L. J. WOOD

MILITARY CONSULTANT

MAJ. GENERAL D. S. GORDON,
C.B. C.S.E. D.S.O.



BRIDGWATER
SOMERSET

19th May, 1972

For the attention of Miss Talley

Dear Sirs,

Iraq

Sidem International

We have been asked by our parent company, to recondition ten thousand sten guns for export to the above country, but before committing ourselves to undertake this work we wish to be certain that the appropriate export licence would be issued to us upon application.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could give us some indication as to whether our licence application for these guns would be approved.

Your earliest advice would be welcome.

Yours faithfully,
for FIREARMS COMPANY LIMITED

(Signature)
(Lloyd Jenkins)
Director

Department of Trade and Industry,
Export Licensing Branch,
Norman Shaw North Building,
Victoria Embankment,
LONDON SW1A 2JB.



Fco.

cc. M13

*SB 22/4
ja*

(1) Mr. ~~Matthew~~ ^{Swinton} ~~Matthew~~ 1.vi.

It may be relevant that the Belgian Embassy here has asked for the name & military staff of the former Iraqi Embassy in London.

W.6

(2) Mr. ~~Smith~~ ^{Smith} ~~Smith~~
 ~~Smith~~.

Mr. ~~He~~ ^{He} ~~He~~

Mr. MacKernan

(Signed)

(see over)

Paragraph 2 of Article 41 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations appears to be relevant in this matter, it states:-

"All official business with the receiving State entrusted to the mission by the sending State shall be conducted with or through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the receiving State or such other ministry as may be agreed."

We have never insisted on missions going through this office on occasions when they wish to discuss matters with another government Department but as you will see, we could insist on this if it was considered necessary.

In the circumstances of this particular case, I can see no reason why we should

insist on the Nazis going through
the Afghan Embassy. If we
had normal diplomatic relations
with the Nazis it would be
incorrect for their Embassy
in Brussels to communicate with
one of our Ministers.

W. Thrift,
(W. THRIFT) 6.

Mr. Allen

Mr. MacPherson

I do not want to make too much of this. But
if the Nazis go on using their Brussels office
there will be even less incentive for them
to resume full relations with us. Unless
Dy. Dept. see real objection, therefore, I think we
should tell MoD to insist on correspondence
via the Afghans (at least via the
Nazi Interests 5 here).

Mr. Smith

We discussed. R. consult MoD. If, by insisting
on routing through the Afghans, we risk losing
(even small) export orders, I wonder whether there is
much point in our being doctrinaire with the Nazis
on this. I agree we have no reason otherwise to
be accommodating towards them. But I doubt whether
the point will affect their willingness to resume full
relations one way or the other.

Thall

-5.6.72

M. Alk

Mr. Pratt, of the Sales, has commented that the amounts involved are very small and that he does not think the pressure to channel correspondence through London will make much difference. I suggest, therefore, we tell Sattan (if necessary by phone) to organize the correspondence through his Section or through the Afghans.

S. L. G.

I have discussed this briefly with Mr. Wright. We do not feel that there is anything to be gained by being awkward with the Iraqis on this or would prefer not to handle requests on the basis of the Iraq Air Attache's letter of 2 May at least for the time being. Would you so inform them please?

M. McPherson

McAll
6.6.72.



DEPARTMENT OF TRADE
AND INDUSTRY
NORMAN SHAW NORTH BUILDING
VICTORIA EMBANKMENT
LONDON SW1A 2JB

Tel: 01 930 4349

Exp 558

MED

Entel

*With the compliments of
The Controller*

Export Licensing Branch

*M. Smith
col called* R. G. HASKELL

*May we have your
comments re the attached
letter, please.*

CS 28 Ho.

RESTRICTED

From: Miss K E Wood



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Main Building, Whitehall, LONDON S.W.1

Telephone: ~~XXXXXXXX~~ 7022, ext. 6730
01-930

7

R
Please enter and pass to JR Phil? NENAD.

and quote: DS136/178/38B
Your reference:

S Macpherson Esq
Defence Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Downing Street
SW1

31 May 72

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No. 35 - 2 JUN 1972 NB210/2

Dear Stuart

IRAQI INTEREST IN PRC 316

1. The Sales branch concerned has told us of a recent report from Rank Precision Industries that the Iraqis have shown interest in PRC 316 Long Range Patrol Sets. The firm say that a set of the equipment has "found its way" to Iraq from Jordan via Syria, and they are expecting a formal request from the Iraqi MA in Paris for release of 2 unclassified documents on this equipment:

EMER F 202 Part 1 - Technical Description, and

F 202 Part 2 - Fault Finding and Repairs.

(You recently agreed to release of these documents to Libya - your NAL 10/4 dated 22 May 1972; and to supply of the equipment to Algeria and Sudan).

2. I should be grateful for your ruling on supply of the 2 documents to Iraq, via the Iraqi MA, Paris.

yours sincerely

Kathy Wood.

Jr Phil

May I please have your comments??

No objection to release of info - decision on sales is of course only taken when contract is actual.

RESTRICTED

see new 10

EK/24/7/6

RESTRICTED

From: Miss K E Wood



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Main Building, Whitehall, LONDON S.W.1

Telephone: ~~WHITCHALL 0022, 0023~~

01-930 7022 Ext 6730

(8)

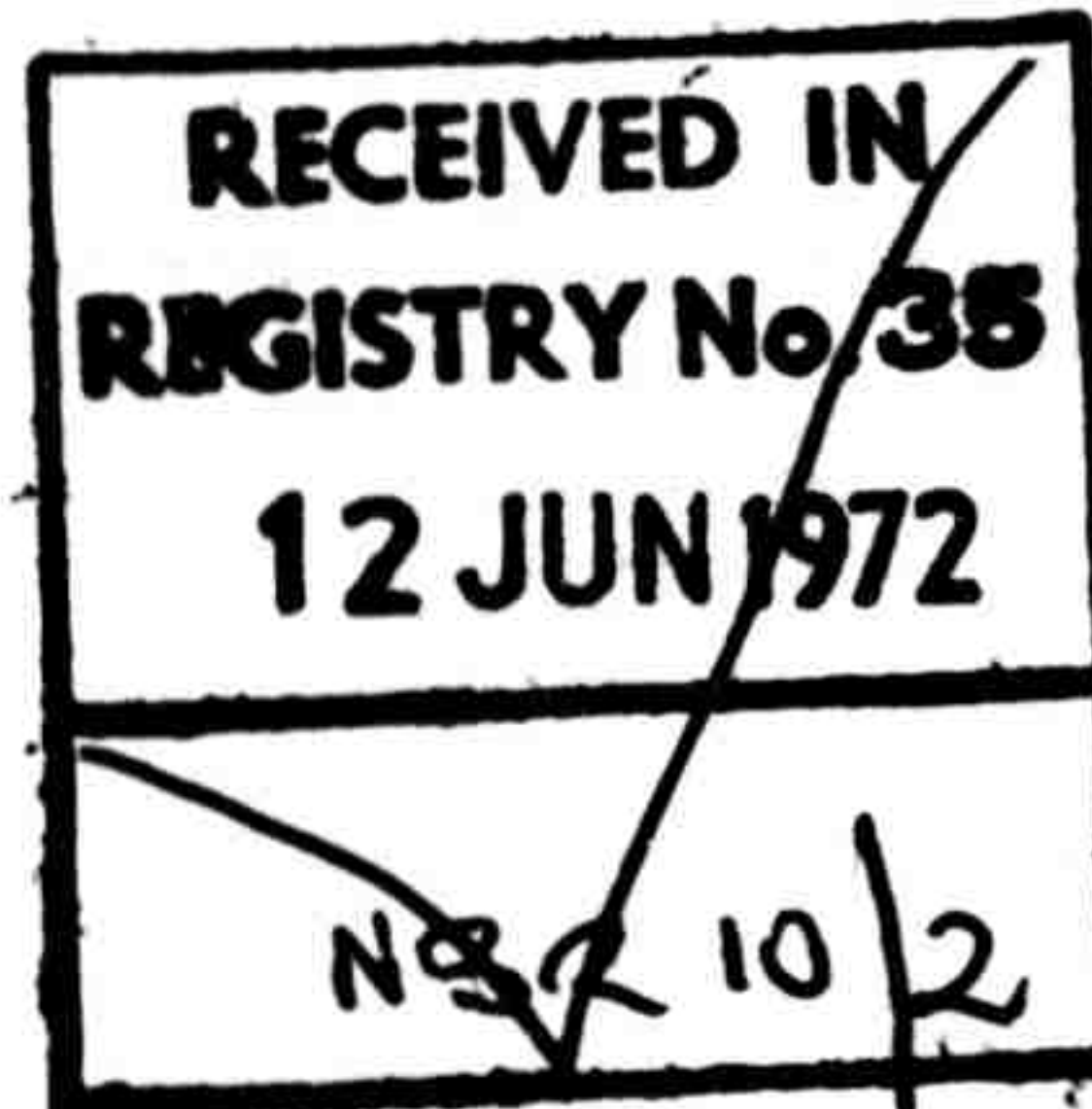
Please address any reply to
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

()

and quote: DS13b/178/38A
Your reference:

R
Please enter and pass to Mr Smith, M.E.D.

S Macpherson Esq
Defence Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Downing Street
SW1



Ch
27/6
7 June 1972

Dear Stuart

ZB 298 - IRAQ

1. Marconi-Elliott Avionics System Ltd have reported serious interest in purchase of ZB 298 by Iraq, and are seeking agreement to export one equipment for trial, to be followed by a possible order for 100 equipments. Such an order would be worth approximately £2M.
2. As you know, this equipment is a battlefield surveillance radar capable of detecting moving men and vehicles to a range of 10,000 metres. MOD are unlikely to agree to delivery of the equipment before late 1974, ie the same time-scale as agreed for Egypt and Libya.
3. I should be grateful for your comments on supply of ZB 298 to Iraq as proposed by the firm. Copies of this letter go to other members of the AWP.

Yours sincerely
Kathy Wood

Mr Smith, M.E.D.

I should be grateful for your comments

Copies to:
Mr G J Gammon, Treasury
Miss M Betteridge, DTI
Lt Col J S Cooper, DPS (C Team)

Mr Macpherson

*We have no objection to the 1 trial
set though a final decision on
bulk supplies should await a*

RESTRICTED

Firm enquiry

Ch
12/6

From: Miss K E WOOD

9



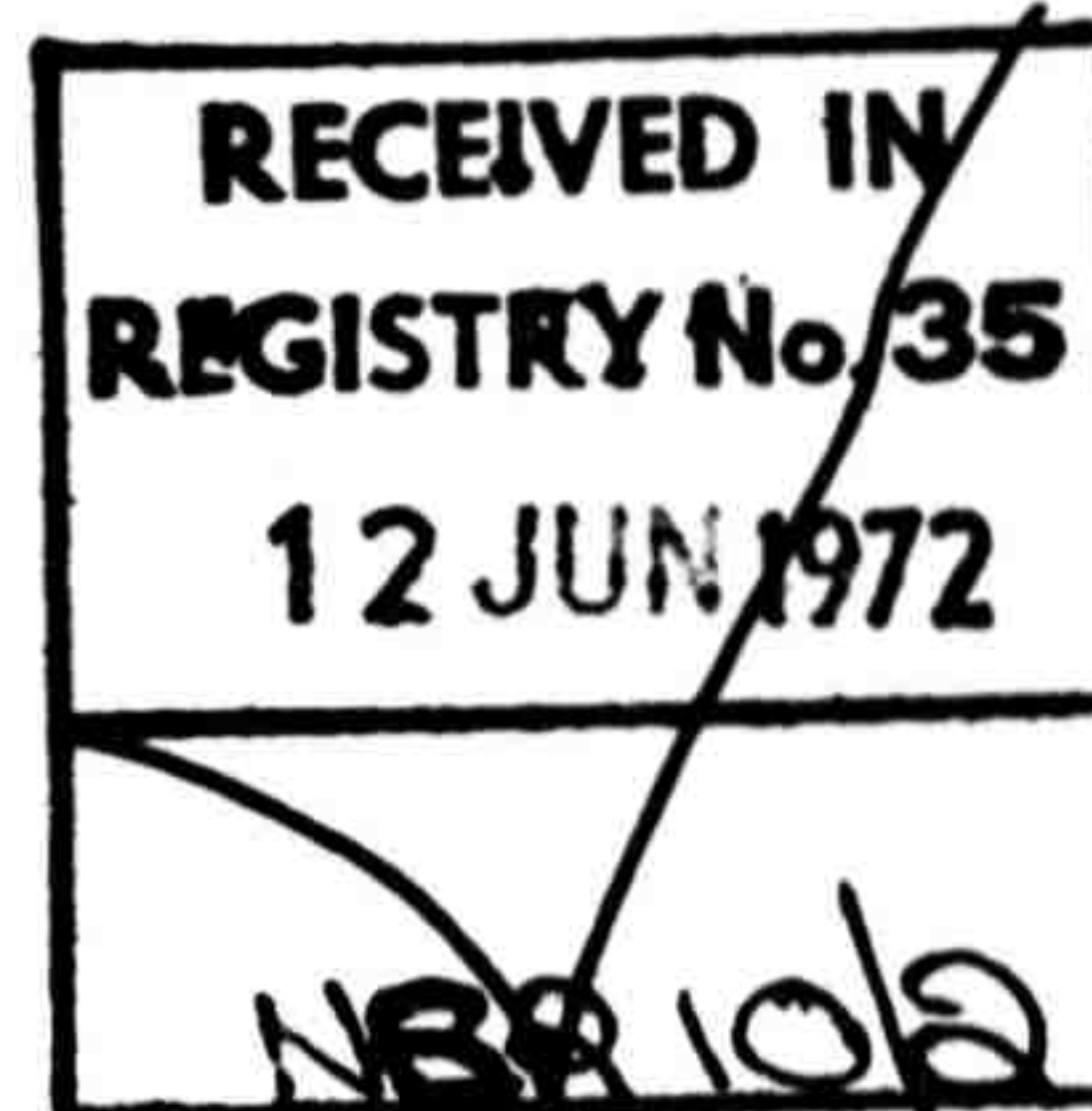
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building, Whitehall, LONDON S.W.1
Telephone: ~~01-930~~ 7022, ext. 6730
01-930

Please address any reply to
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

()

and quote: DS13b/178/38
Your reference: NEQ 10/1

S Macpherson Esq
Defence Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Downing Street
SW1



8 June 1972

Dear Stuart

IRAQ - BRITTEN NORMAN ISLANDERS

1. Your letter of 1 February 1972 to Mr Birtwhistle of Defence Sales advised that while you had no objection to Britten-Norman (Bembridge) Ltd trying to sell 3 Islander aircraft to the Iraqis, you wished to be consulted further in the event of a firm order being received. Britten-Norman have now reported that the Iraqi Air Force have signed contracts for 3 Islanders, and I should be grateful for your confirmation that at the moment you see no reason why an Export Licence application for these aircraft should be refused.
2. The firm also report Iraqi Army interest in the Islander-Defender aircraft and would like to send full information on this aircraft. Such information would be unclassified. They think there is little doubt that the Army would want aircraft fitted with all the usual military options which would give them the capability of fitting and operating rockets, machine guns, bombs etc. Britten-Norman are naturally anxious to follow up their initial sale of Islanders to Iraq and have asked if approval in principle can be given for supply of Defenders (possibly half a dozen). I should be grateful for your views.
3. I am copying this letter to other members of the AWP.

Yours sincerely

Kathy Wood

Mr Smith

May I please have your comments?

Mr Macpherson

No objection
[Signature] 12/6

see and reply @ 12

Copies to:
Mr G J Gammon Treasury
Miss M Betteridge DTI
Lieutenant Colonel J S Cooper DPS (C Team)

Miss K E Wood
DS 13
Ministry of Defence
Main Building

NRB 10/2
12 June 1972

IRAQI INTEREST IN PRC 316

We should have no objection to the release of the unclassified information to Iraq about this equipment contained in the two documents described in your letter of 31 May but in the event of an order becoming likely we should wish to be consulted again about the possibility of supply.

S MACPHERSON
Defence Department

13/6
JLB

Miss K E Wood
DS 13
Ministry of Defence
Main Building

NBR 10/2

13 June 1972

ADEN GUN SPARES - IRAQ

5

Thank you for your letter of 19 May enclosing a copy of a letter from the Iraq Air Attaché's letter about arms purchases.

2. The relevant department has now considered this matter. It is felt that on balance there is nothing to be gained by questioning procedures with the Iraqis about this and we can agree to the MOD handling requests on the basis of Iraq Air Attaché's letter of 2 May, at least for the time being.

S MACPHERSON
Defence Department

45814/6
pu

Miss K E Wood
DS 13
Ministry of Defence
Main Building

NBR 10/2
15 June 1972

IRAQ - BRITTEN NORMAN ISLANDERS

We would have no objection to the supply of information to Iraq by Britten-Norman (Bembridge) Ltd about their Islander-Defender aircraft, as requested in your letter of 8 June. - (9)

2. I am copying this letter to other members of the Arms Working Party.



S MACPHERSON
Defence Department

Miss K E Wood
DS13
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1

NBR 10/2
19 June 1972

ZB 298 - IRAQ

(8)

In reply to your letter of 7 June, subject to other necessary clearances being obtained, we should have no political objection to the export of one equipment only to Iraq by Marconi-Elliott Avionics System Ltd for trial purposes. In the event of subsequent firm enquiries being received about possible purchase of the equipment, we should however wish to be consulted further.

2. I am copying this letter to the other members of the Arms Working Party.

pad

S MACPHERSON
Defence Department

RESTRICTED

Confidential

Reference

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No. 35 26 JUN 1972 NBR 10/2.
--

7/2 Reflon

Request to Supply 10,000 Stems to Iraq.

Mr. Smith has requested our agreement to the MED
draft Submission, below. He would appreciate telephone
clearance as soon as possible. In the present
circumstances prevailing, I imagine we have no comment?

1 April 1976

MED (Mr Smith) informed.

13/6

13/6
ASB 26/6 pa

Firearms Co. Ltd.

ASSOCIATED WITH SIDEM INTERNATIONAL

Manufacturers and Distributors of
Hand Guns, Hunting, Sporting &
Military Firearms

DIRECTORS

J. B. MICHAULT (U.S.A.)
THE HON. W. G. M. SPENS.
LLOYD JENKINS
LT. COL. E. R. WARREN, A.M.I.E.J.
ASSOC. I. MECH. E.
SECRETARY
L. J. WOOD

MILITARY CONSULTANT
MAJ. GENERAL D. S. GORDON,
C.B. C.B.E. D.S.O.

RECEIVED IN
REGISTRY No. 35
30 MAY 1972

NBR 10/2

COLLEY LANE

BRIDGWATER

SOMERSET

19th May, 1972

For the attention of Miss Talley

Dear Sirs,

Iraq

Sidem International

We have been asked by our parent company, to recondition ten thousand sten guns for export to the above country, but before committing ourselves to undertake this work we wish to be certain that the appropriate export licence would be issued to us upon application.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could give us some indication as to whether our licence application for these guns would be approved.

Your earliest advice would be welcome.

Yours faithfully,
for FIREARMS COMPANY LIMITED

(Signature)
(Lloyd Jenkins)
Director

Department of Trade and Industry,
Export Licensing Branch,
Norman Shaw North Building,
Victoria Embankment,
LONDON SW1A 2JB.



Fco.

cc. D13

Mr Parsons

Mr Renwick

ARMS FOR IRAQ

PROBLEM

FLAG A
w (14)

1. A British firm, Firearms Co Ltd, has been asked to recondition ten thousand sten guns for export to Iraq. Before committing itself the firm wishes to confirm that the appropriate export licence would be issued upon application. What view should we express to the Department of Trade and Industry on this?

BACKGROUND AND ARGUMENT

FLAG B
NEQ 10/2 (3)

2. As Miss Beckett pointed out in her minute of 18 January 1972, the Iraqis continually make vague enquiries about the purchase of British arms but have appeared reluctant to place firm orders. Miss Beckett also pointed out that the rupture of diplomatic relations between the two countries further complicated the situation. We have however now received a specific request from a British firm for confirmation that an export licence would be forthcoming for 10,000 sten guns.

FLAG C
w (15)

3. At the end of last year it was established (Mr Parsons' minute of 31 December 1971) that a Sterling sub-machine gun, which formed part of a consignment supplied to Libya from the UK, was used by the PFLP in their assassination attempt on the Jordanian Ambassador in London in February 1971. Mr Parsons recommended at that time that no further orders for small arms, grenades, etc for Libya should be approved unless and until an absolutely convincing assurance that such weapons would not be allowed to leave Libyan territory was produced.

SECRET

/4.

SECRET

-2-

4. It is possible that similar weapons sent to Iraq would be passed on to the PFLP, with embarrassing consequences for us. Even more likely, these weapons could be used by members of the Iraqi Public Relations Bureau (the intelligence arm of the Iraqi Ba'ath Party specialising in terrorism) in pursuit of their assassination attempts. We know the PRB has drawn up lists of people in London, Cairo and Beirut who are to be assassinated. It would be extremely embarrassing for us if a weapon exported from the UK were to be employed in an attempted assassination, whether or not this was successful. There is no chance of obtaining any worthwhile guarantee from the Iraqis about the use to which the weapons might be put.

5. A further consideration is the present state of relations between Iraq and Iran. There are frequent border skirmishes and there is therefore a possibility of British-supplied guns being used against, and captured by, the Iranians. This would not only harm our political relations with Iran but could well affect our sales of defence equipment in that lucrative market.

FLAG D
W. 15

Mr Anderson, Defence Sales (MOD), commented on 7 July 1971, at a meeting attended by Mr Parsons, that there was a clear need "to balance potential sales in Iran against Iraq. Iran was the most important Middle Eastern market and the Ministry of Defence were not therefore particularly keen on supplying arms to Iraq". He added that "our main concern was not to upset the Shah".

/RECOMMENDATION

SECRET

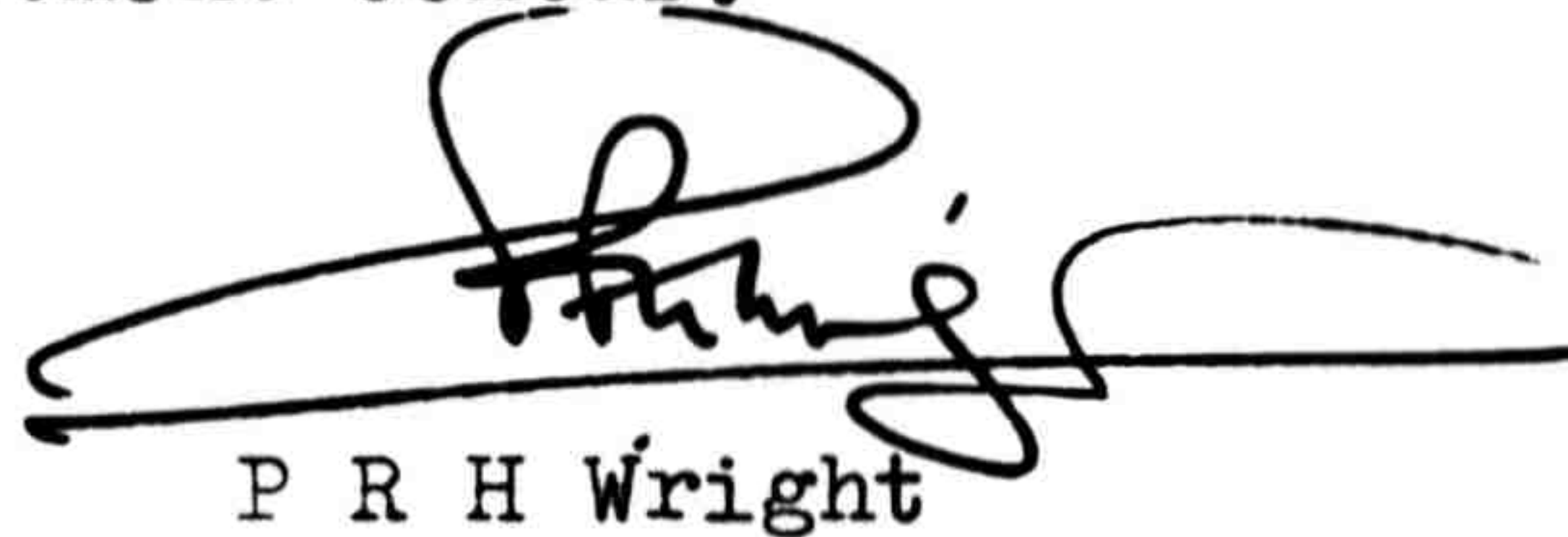
SECRET

-3-

RECOMMENDATION

6. In the light of the foregoing I recommend that we tell the Department of Trade and Industry that we would not agree to the issue of an export licence for this order. I attach a draft letter to the DTI.

7. PUSD and Defence Department concur.



P R H Wright

Middle East Department

19 June 1972

Mr ~~Renwick~~

I agree. After the Iraqi assassination attempts in London and Cairo, I do not think that we can risk selling them small arms. In any case, it would seem to me more likely that reconditioned sten guns would be destined for the PRB rather than the Iraqi armed forces who must be equipped with up-to-date Soviet small arms. I cannot believe that a refusal to supply this consignment will make our relations with Iraq any worse than they are while the business lost would not be very much.



A D Parsons

19 June 1972

SECRET

③
⑧

SECRET

Mr Daunt

Dh
25
10/1

SALE OF SMALL ARMS TO LIBYA

As I mentioned the other day, it has now emerged that the Sterling sub-machine gun used in the assassination attempt on the Jordanian Ambassador was one of a consignment of 3,000 which Sterlings sold to the Libyans in February this year. Another gun from the same consignment was discovered in the boot of a car on the Syrian/Jordanian frontier in June. When we taxed the Libyans about this they expressed total mystification.

2. I have informed the Jordanian Ambassador in the strictest confidence for his and King Hussein's information only. I have reported accordingly to Amman and Tripoli (the Jordanian Ambassador is returning to Amman on 2 January).

3. At our request, the Special Branch are trying to discover how the sub-machine gun re-entered the United Kingdom and found its way into the hands of the Palestinian gunmen. Mr. Evans is calling on the Special Branch officer concerned on 3 January and will take this up with him as well as other points regarding the security of the Jordanian Embassy. When the investigation is completed and subject to its results, we shall have to decide how to react with the Libyans. It may be a week or so before we are in a position to make this decision, but there is no great urgency.

SECRET

/4....

SECRET

4. Meanwhile Sterlings have been asked by the Libyans to supply a further consignment of 10,000 sub-machine guns urgently: the Libyans even offered to pay 50 per cent of the cost in advance. After explaining the circumstances in ~~CONFIDENCE~~ ~~private~~ to the Ministry of Defence, we have told Sterlings, without giving a reason, that it is most unlikely that we shall be able to issue an export licence for this order. In view of this they have decided not to pursue the contract.
5. If the Libyans or Sterlings revert to this before our investigation on the gun which was used on the Jordanian Ambassador is complete, I recommend that they should be told that an export licence will definitely not be forthcoming.
6. When the time comes I recommend that we must tell the Libyans that, in view of the fact that two guns have now been found in the possession of Palestinian terrorists, we cannot approve any further orders for small arms, grenades, etc. to Libya unless and until they can give us an absolutely convincing assurance that such weapons will not be allowed to leave Libyan sovereign territory. The Libyans may regard this as another cassus belli but, given the evidence and the open involvement of the Libyan Government with the Palestinian commandos, I do not believe that we can justify further supplies of this nature.

31 December 1971

A D Parsons

Copies to: Private Secretary
Mr Renwick
Mr LeQuesne
Mr Evans ✓
Mr Craig
SECRET

(D)

CONFIDENTIAL

✓ 12. Mr. Anderson agreed and pointed out that the Ministry of Defence clearly had to balance potential sales in Iran against Iraq. Iran was the most important Middle Eastern market and the MOD were not therefore particularly keen on supplying arms to Iraq.

13. Mr. Adamson said that the Iraqis were anxious to obtain the Clansman radio pack set.

✓ 14. Mr. Anderson said that our main concern was not to upset the Shah. Mr. Adamson felt that this was unlikely so far as wireless sets or defence radar were concerned.

IRAN

15. In answer to a question by Mr. Parsons, Mr. Anderson said that the second Chieftain contract had been signed. The Iranians were thinking of using American wireless sets for their Chieftains. Although there had been some doubt about the range of operation of British radio equipment the firm concerned had agreed to modify its sets at no extra cost to give the Iranians the range they required and Mr. Suffield had guaranteed that these sets would be ready in time for the Chieftain delivery programme. We had informed General Toufani of this and hoped to have his decision by next week. The Ministry of Defence were reasonably confident that we would have a favourable reply from the Iranians on this.

16. When Mr. Suffield had met the Shah, the latter had asked for advice on developing facilities in Iran for the maintenance of the tanks and for the manufacture of spares. Mr. Suffield had arranged to send a team out to Tehran to make recommendations and would be sending another team out in mid-August to look into the ammunition question. The Ministry of Defence had received indications that the Shah was keen on looking to the UK for more defence equipment and the Ministry of Defence hoped to exploit this.

17. However, there was a problem of representation in the Embassy in Tehran. The Ministry of Defence felt that there was a need for an Assistant Military Attaché in Tehran and were pressing for this through normal channels. They expected that this would take at least a year to achieve. As an interim measure, they intended to ask General Goddard to recruit a major on to his staff who would eventually become the Assistant Military Attaché, but in the meantime would be seconded by General Goddard to the Embassy.

KUWAIT

18. Mr. Anderson reported that there were no immediate problems with Kuwait although the Kuwaitis seemed to be in financial difficulties as their budget did not provide enough money for the purchase of authorised UK items. They were, he believed, seeking an increase in their defence budget which should take care of authorised purchases.

/SAUDI....

CONFIDENTIAL

News to me.

R.E.

21/7

But let us hope the Iranians don't overdo it; they are already heavily in debt.

Which are?

R.E.

21/7

* C.S. Dept

and: A. T. T.

Agas, Personnel

(Ops) Dept

Rev

21/7

R T Haskell Esq
Export Licensing Branch
Department of Trade & Industry

NBR 10/2
23 June 1972

STEN GUNS FOR IRAQ

1. Please refer to Firearms Co Ltd letter of 19 May to Miss Talley, a copy of which reached us under cover of compliments slip.
2. The uses to which these weapons might be put by a régime which is basically hostile to us could cause HMG a great deal of harm. We know that the Iraqi authorities favour assassination as a means of disposing of their opponents, and these weapons could well be used for this purpose (the PFLP used such a weapon though not from Iraqi sources, in 1971 in an attack on the Jordanian Ambassador in London).
3. Moreover, given the constant series of border skirmishes between Iran and Iraq, it is quite possible that the guns could be used against Iranian forces. This could not only harm our political relations with Iran but might also affect our current lucrative sales of defence equipment to them.
4. In these circumstances we should wish to oppose any application from the Firearms Co Ltd for the supply of sten guns to Iraq.
5. I am copying this letter to Mr Wade, DS 13, MOD and to other members of the Arms Working Party.

MSB 27/8
S MACPHERSON
Defence Department

Mr Smith again.

RESTRICTED

Mr. Wright
Mr. MacPherson (Def Dept)
ARMS SALES TO IRAQ

Reference

NBR 10/2 (17)

The equipment is designed purely for air defense purposes. If we are content on security grounds there seems no other reason why we should not supply. ~~Mr. 20.10/8.~~

Mr. Hale of Defence Sales telephoned this morning to inform us that Marconi are now confident of concluding a contract with the Iraqi Govt. in the near future for the supply of radar equipment worth between £2½ and £3 millions.

2. The equipment is described as a mobile sector operations centre for ground control interception, consisting of three control cabins with two mobile surveillance radars with height finders. The equipment has been privately developed and is unclassified. According to Mr. Hale it has already been widely sold.

3. The equipment seems purely defensive. It would not, therefore, add to Iraq's offensive capability. Nor could it be used against Iran; there seems, therefore, no danger of the sale having any adverse effect on our relations with Iran.

4. I recommend, therefore, that ~~previous~~ subject to Defence Dept.'s views Defence Sales should be told that we have no objection to this sale.

(B. Smith)

MED 17 August 1972

C.A. ~~Adm.~~ first

I think this is agree. But please discuss with Mr. Smith whether, in view of capacity, this conflict with our interest in P1000 order for P084.

RESTRICTED

DD 897152 154596 500M 2/72 GM 36432/8

~~Mr Wright~~

I have discussed this with Mr Smith and we are agreed that this is not really a parallel case with PDRY.

- (a) Ministers have made no decisions in regard to exports of munitions to Iraq.
- (b) The equipment itself is innocuous.
- (c) It seems unlikely that the Iraqis would make a gift of it to PDRY.
- (d) It might help to get further orders for British equipment in Iraq and deny them to the Rumanians.

In the circumstances I think we should accept Mr Smith's recommendation.

Wright
18/8

1 spec.

Ph
18/8

Mr Smith

Def. Sec. informed.

pa 8/8/8

EB/23/7/7

From: Miss K E Wood

18



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Main Building, Whitehall, LONDON S.W.1

Telephone: ~~Whitehall~~ 7022, ext. 6730

01-930

Please address any reply to
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

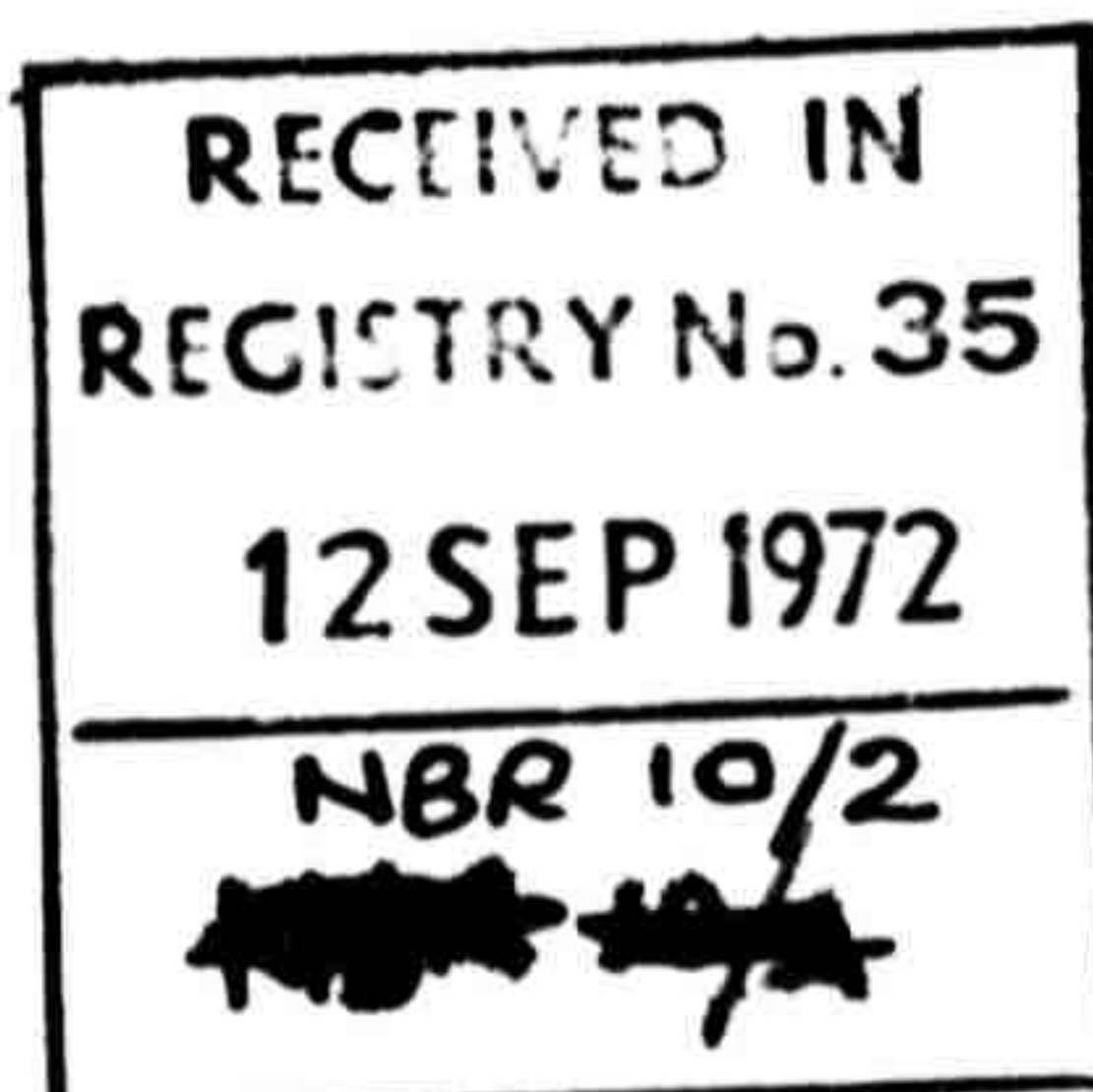
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and quote: DS13b/178/38

Your reference:

R
Please enter and pass to Mr Smith, MED.

Ch. 8/9



S Macpherson Esq
Defence Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Downing Street
SW1

7 September 1972

Dear Stuart

SECTOR OPERATIONS CENTRE - IRAQ

1. I attach a letter from Marconi Radar Systems Ltd covering a drawing and data sheets relating to supply of a Sector Operations Centre for the Iraq Air Force. I understand that Sales 1 have already obtained informal FCO agreement to supply of this system but they would now like your formal clearance that Marconi may go ahead.
2. May I have your approval please. I should be grateful if you would return the attached papers with your reply.
3. Copies of this letter go to other members of the Arms Working Party.

Yours sincerely
Kathy Wood

Copies to:

Mr G J Gammon - Treasury
Miss M Betteridge - DTI
Mr D A Whitby - DTI ELA
Lt Col G W A Napier - DPS (C Team)

*WGB R/9
ps*

Mr. Smith

May I please have your comments?

Adler 14/9

Mr. Napier

Please see minute at (17). We have already agreed that Marconi can go ahead.

Ch. 8/9

12/7

19

Miss K E Wood
DS13
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1

NBR 10/2

15 September 1972

SECTOR OPERATIONS CENTRE - IRAQ

18

In reply to your letter of 7 September, I am pleased to confirm the informal agreement already given for Marconi to supply the data sheets to Iraq relating to a Sector Operations Centre for the Iraqi Air Force and I now return the correspondence enclosed with your letter.

2. I am copying this letter to the other members of the Arms Working Party for their information.

S MACPHERSON
Defence Department

MSB 19/9
pa

EB/73/2/7

From: Miss K E Wood

RESTRICTED

20

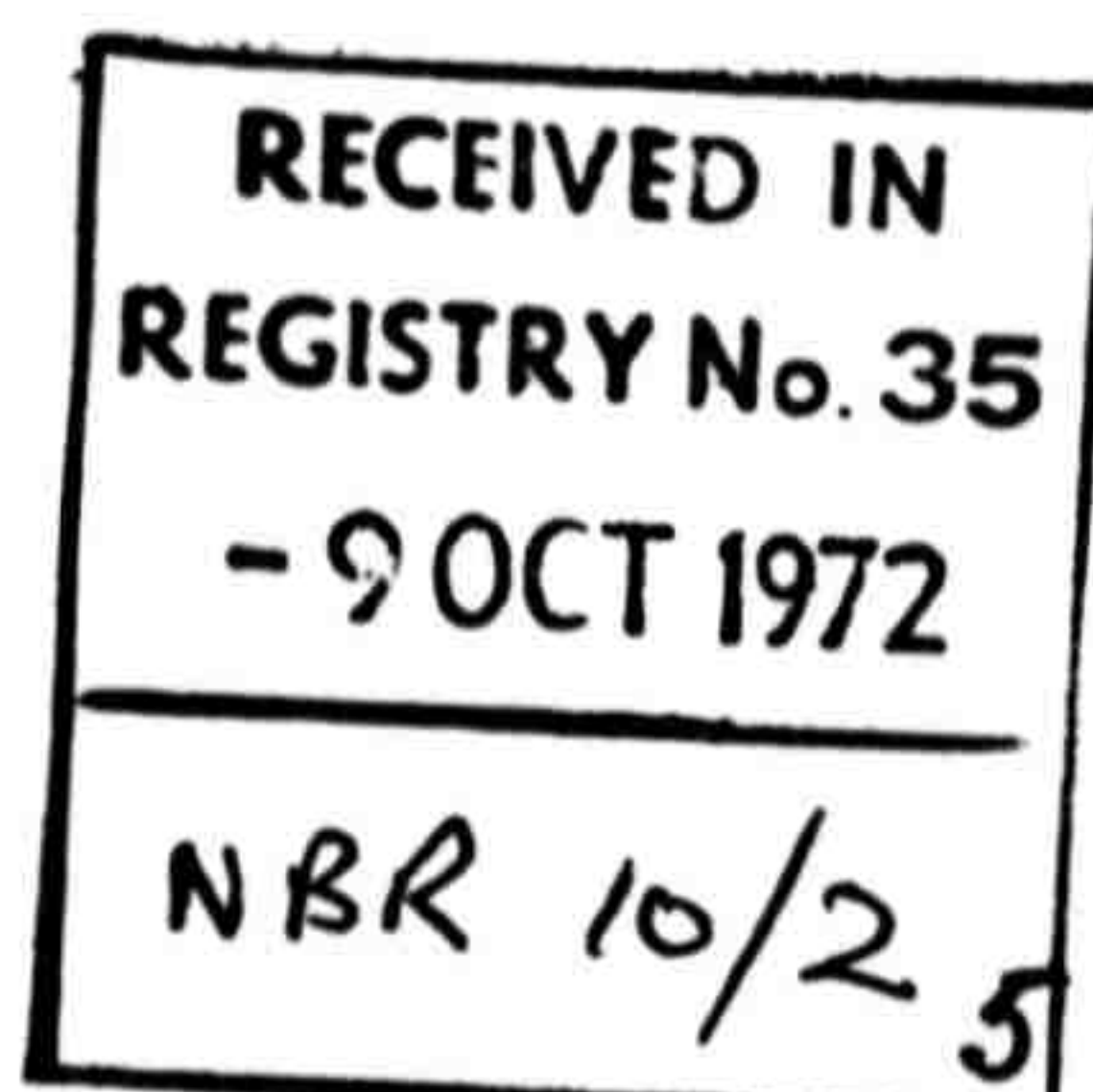


MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building, Whitehall, LONDON S.W.1
Telephone: ~~XXXXXX~~ 7022, ext. 6730
01-930

Our reference: DS13b/178/38
Your reference:

R/ Please Enter a pass to Mr Smith, VME D.

S Macpherson Esq
Defence Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Downing Street
SW1



9.10.72
6/10
Mr. Barker
October 1972
Mr. Macpherson (J. D.)

Dear Stuart

pa 7/1 x
I can see no objection.

LIGHTWEIGHT BODY ARMOUR - IRAQ INTEREST

1. Rolls-Royce (Composite Materials) Ltd have received an enquiry from a firm called General Engineering Services Ltd, commissioning agents and consultants of Baghdad, about the cost and availability of body armour. The armour appears to be intended for use by the Iraqi Civilian Internal Security Authority.
2. Rolls-Royce make 2 weights of body armour, details of which are as follows:-
 - a. Grade 36. Weighs 3.6 lbs/sq ft and is $\frac{3}{8}$ " thick. In general terms this armour is designed to stop bullets fired at close range from sub-machine guns, heavy revolvers, shotguns and .22 rifles. A three-panel suit of this armour weighs between 11 and 17 lbs, depending on the size. Price £81 per suit, reducing to £58.6 each for large quantities.
 - b. Grade 50. Weighs 5 lbs/sq ft and is $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick - to withstand heavier threats. A three-panel suit of this armour weighs between 14 and 22.7 lbs, according to size. Price £87, reducing to £65 each suit for large quantities.
3. No specific quantity of armour suits has been quoted. I should therefore be grateful to know if there would be any political objection in principle to the sale of body armour to the Iraq Security Services through General Engineering Services. The British Commercial Attache, British Interests Section of the Royal Swedish Embassy, Baghdad, considers this firm to be "a suitable connection for British firms for normal business transactions".
4. Copies of this letter go to other members of the Arms Working Party.

yours sincerely
Kathy Wood

see 21
Copies to:
Mr G J Gammon - Treasury
Miss M Betteridge - DTI
Mr D A Whitby - DTI (ELB)
Lt Col D W A Napier - DPS (C Team)

Mr Smith
May 9 please have your comments?
6/10

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

Miss K E Wood
DS13
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1

NBR 10/2
/0 October 1972

LIGHTWEIGHT BODY ARMOUR - IRAQ INTEREST

In reply to your letter of 5 October, - (20)
we should have no political objection in
principle to the supply to Iraq of the
Rolls Royce body armour through General
Engineering Services.

2. I am copying this letter to the other
members of the Arms Working Party.

S MACPHERSON
Defence Department

pub n/x

RESTRICTED

LAST PAPER

Exports of Arms to LRAQ - 1972

	FIRM	EXPORT	DATE
A	ROLLS ROYCE LTD	see also (21) LIGHTWEIGHT BODY ARMOUR	5.10.72
B	MARCONI RADAR LTD	see also (19) SECTOR OPERATION CENTRE	7.9.72
C	FIREARMS CO LTD	STENG GUNS	23.6.72
D	SUBMISSION : WRIGHT / PARSONS		19.6.72
E	MARCONI-ELLIOT AVIONICS	see also (13) ONE EQUIPMENT	7.6.72
F	BRITTEN-NORMAN LTD	see also (12) ISLAND DEFENDERS	8.6.72
G	RANK PRECISION INDUSTRIES	LONG RANGE PATROL SETS	31.5.72
H	IRAQI INTERESTS SECTION	ADEN GUN SPARES	19.5.72
	RICHMOND ELECTRONICS LTD	see also (6) BOMB DISPOSAL EQUIPMENT	31.1.72

Exports Of Arms To Iraq By British Companies. Export Of Arms And Ammunition From UK To Iraq. 30 Mar. 1972. MS Middle East Online: Iraq, 1914-1974: Selected files from series AIR, CAB, CO, FCO, FO, PREM, T, WO, The National Archives, Kew, UK FCO 8/1903. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Archives Unbound, link.gale.com/apps/doc/SC5107471862/GDSC?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-GDSC&xid=9f8e42c3&pg=1. Accessed 11 Apr. 2022.